

Serial No.: 10/789,074

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 1. (currently amended) A method for assembling carbon particles into at least one
2 aligned carbon fiber, the method comprising the step of drawing glass containing said
3 carbon particles so as to form at least one carbon fiber from said carbon particles into a
4 fiber.

1 2. (original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said carbon particles are
2 carbon nanotube molecules.

1 3. (original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said carbon particles are
2 carbon fibrils.

1 4. (original) The invention as defined in claim 1 further comprising the step of
2 twisting said fiber.

1 5. (original) The invention as defined in claim 1 further comprising the step of
2 twisting said fiber while heating said fiber to facilitate its twisting.

1 6. (original) The invention as defined in claim 1 further comprising the step of
2 heating said glass containing carbon particles while drawing it.

1 7. (currently amended) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said drawing
2 step produces a plurality of aligned carbon fibers, the method further comprising the step
3 of twisting said plurality of aligned carbon fibers, whereby said aligned carbon nanotube
4 fibers are drawn towards the axis of said fiber so as to expel glass that was located
5 between and within said aligned carbon fibers prior to performing said twisting.

1

Serial No.: 10/789,074

1 8. (original) The invention as defined in claim 1 further comprising the step of
2 forming said glass containing carbon particles.

1 9. (original) The invention as defined in claim 8 wherin said forming step further
2 comprises the step of solidifying a mixture of carbon particles within a sol-gel solution
3 whereby a body is formed.

1 10. (original) The invention as defined in claim 9 wherein said forming step
2 further comprises the step of dispersing carbon particles within said sol-gel solution to
3 form said mixture.

1 11. (original) The invention as defined in claim 9 wherein said solidifying step
2 further comprises the step of adding an ester to said mixture.

1 12. (original) The invention as defined in claim 9 wherein said body is porous

1 13. (original) The invention as defined in claim 9 further comprising the step of
2 imbuing said body with at least one other material.

1 14. (original) The invention as defined in claim 9 further comprising the step of
2 heating said preform to consolidate it, whereby a consolidated body is formed.

1 15. (original) The invention as defined in claim 9 further comprising the step of
2 incorporating said body into a larger body to form a preform.

1 16. (original) The invention as defined in claim 15 wherein said larger body is a
2 glass body having a hole.

1 17. (original) The invention as defined in claim 15 wherein said incorporating
2 step further comprises the step of heating said larger body to consolidate it.

Serial No.: 10/789,074

1 18. (original) The invention as defined in claim 15 further comprising the step of
2 incorporating at least one other body into said larger body so that said perform contains
3 multiple bodies.

1 19. (currently amended) The invention as defined in claim 1 further comprising
2 the step of removing some glass from said carbon fiber.

1 20. (currently amended) The invention as defined in claim 19 wherein said glass
2 that is removed is from an exterior portion of said carbon fiber.

1 21. (original) The invention as defined in claim 19 wherein said removing is
2 performed using at least a mechanical process.

1 22. (original) The invention as defined in claim 19 wherein said removing is
2 performed using at least a chemical process.

1 23. (currently amended) A glass carbon fiber containing comprising carbon
2 particles and residual glass, said residual glass being located substantially exterior to said
3 carbon fiber.

1 24. (original) The invention as defined in claim 23 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon nanotube molecules.

1 25. (original) The invention as defined in claim 23 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon fibrils.

Serial No.: 10/789,074

1 26. (currently amended) A method for assembling carbon particles into at least
2 one aligned carbon fiber, the method comprising the step of drawing a preform of glass
3 containing carbon particles into a said carbon fiber, whereby said carbon particles are
4 substantially aligned.

1 27. (original) The invention as defined in claim 26 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon nanotube molecules.

1 28. (original) The invention as defined in claim 26 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon fibrils.

1 29. (currently amended) A plurality of carbon particles with at least some glass
2 fibers having exterior to said fibers at least some glass, said fibers having been drawn
3 substantially together from a single preform.

1 30. (currently amended) The invention as defined in claim 29 wherein said
2 carbon particles with at least some glass fibers are twisted together.

1 31. (original) The invention as defined in claim 29 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon nanotube molecules.

1 32. (original) The invention as defined in claim 29 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon fibrils.

1 33. (currently amended) A glass-carbon particle fiber comprising aligned carbon
2 particles commingled with at least some glass primarily exterior to said.

1 34. (original) The invention as defined in claim 33 wherein said carbon particles
2 were aligned while said fiber was drawn.

Serial No.: 10/789,074

1 35. (original) The invention as defined in claim 33 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon nanotube molecules.

1 36. (original) The invention as defined in claim 33 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon fibrils.

1 37. (original) A carbon particle fiber comprising aligned carbon particles that
2 were aligned by having been drawn while intermixed within a carrier substance.

1 38. (original) The invention as defined in claim 37 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon nanotube molecules.

1 39. (original) The invention as defined in claim 37 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon fibrils.

1 40. (currently amended) A method for producing at least one carbon fiber, the
2 method comprising the steps of:

3 embedding said carbon particles in glass; and
4 drawing said glass with said embedded carbon particles into a carbon fiber so that
5 said carbon particles are substantially aligned within said carbon fiber.

1 41. (original) The invention as defined in claim 40 wherein said carbon particles
2 are carbon nanotube molecules.